

**MINUTES  
FORT MYERS BEACH  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Town Hall - Council Chambers  
2523 Estero Boulevard  
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

**Wednesday, March 12, 2014**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Butcher. Members present: Bruce Butcher, Al Durrett, Rexann Hosafros, John Kakatsch, and Jim Wray.

Excused: Alice Mack and Tom Myers.

Town Staff: Sam Updike

Lee County DOT: Robert Phelan

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of February 12, 2014

**MOTION:** Mr. Wray moved to approve the minutes; second by Mr. Durrett.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

**IV. LIGHTNING WARNING SYSTEM - Discussions on Cost Estimates**

Mr. Updike provided a chart that compared all systems. Discussion was held regarding the number of horns, cost, reputation of company, coverage, and funding sources.

**MOTION:** Ms. Hosafros moved to recommend that the Town obtain a system to protect various citizens and visitors from lightning strikes, and to indicate to the Town Council that after investigation, three companies were ranked: 1) Weatherbug, 2) Strike Guard, and 3) Thor Guard; second by Mr. Kakatsch.

Mr. Kakatsch questioned selling part of the system to businesses.

**AMENDMENT:** Mr. Kakatsch amended the motion to include that the Town workshop with interested businesses. Ms. Hosafros accepted the amendment.

Consensus was reached with rankings: 1) Weatherbug, 2) Strike Guard, and 3) Thor Guard.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

## **VI. ESTERO BLVD. IMPROVEMENTS & STREETLIGHT DISCUSSION**

Chair Butcher reviewed portions of the County presentation to Town Council on February 18. Discussion was held regarding streetlights, locations, funding, time frame, and Crescent Street.

**MOTION:** Mr. Kakatsch moved to schedule a workshop; second by Ms. Hosafros.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

## **VII. PROPOSED BAY BEACH RRFB - Status Update**

Mr. Phelan reported that he received the survey data and the design process was moving forward.

## **VIII. STAFF REPORT**

### **A. Street Light Outage Report**

No outages reported.

### **B. Clear Sight Distance - Lenell & Dakota**

Mr. Phelan referred to an aerial of Lenell. Discussion was held concerning visibility, sight triangles, land development code, responsibility of owners, involvement of the Town Attorney, and code enforcement. Chair Butcher stated that he would talk to Mr. Overmyer in code before proceeding further.

Mr. Kakatsch described the lack of visibility at Dakota due to the large bushes.

## **IX. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Pete Hyde felt that the speed limit at the Lenell intersection stretch should be reduced to 25 mph. Mr. Hyde suggested finding innovative alternatives to provide safety. Mr. Durrett reviewed the history of Lenell issues.

Ms. Hosafros questioned whether V.O.I.C.E. would be available to assist at Lenell. Mr. Durrett replied that it would be feasible to contact the Sheriff's Office. Mr. Wray questioned the use of a flashing yellow light. Mr. Phelan replied that several components needed to be justified in order to install a light. Mr. Durrett stated that there had been an accident at Bay Beach, but that no information was available.

## **X. MEMEBER COMMENTS**

Chair Butcher asked what happened to the Be Seen Banner. Mr. Updike stated that he would check with maintenance.

Chair Butcher raised the idea of providing transportation for Florida Gulf Coast University students.

Chair Butcher asked if members received brochure requests.

Mr. Wray questioned whether a safety plan was related to construction. Mr. Phelan replied that safety was a high priority.

Ms. Hosafros stated that she would enjoy an opportunity to become the council liaison to the Committee.


## XI. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** Mr. Wray moved to adjourn; second by Mr. Kakatsch.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Adopted 07-09-14 with/without changes. Motion by JERRY K. WRAY<sup>2ND</sup>  
(DATE)

Vote: 5-0 Signature: 

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